

Weekly Police Beat for the Week ending July 29, 2016

Daytime Theft Trend Identified

Residents are asked to be vigilant and call police right away

Over the past 2 weeks, the Chevy Chase Village Police Department has seen a pattern of petty thefts occurring during the daytime on weekdays. The chronology follows:

- **Friday, July 15 10:30am-10:45am:** A construction worker's wallet was stolen from his unlocked truck parked on Hesketh Street between Kirkside and Wisconsin. No suspect was seen.
- **Tuesday, July 19:** At about 11:30 a.m., a resident called Village police and reported that, one hour before he called, he saw a young man walking west in the 4000 block of Oliver Street. The resident reported that the young man that he had seen one hour prior was the same young man that the resident had seen on **Friday, July 15 at about noon** opening car doors on Park Street near Oliver Street. Unfortunately, the resident had not called the police on Friday, July 15. The suspicious young man was already gone when police were called on July 19. **The resident described the suspicious person and a young black male, wearing a white T-shirt and blue jeans. He was wearing headphones and carrying a cell phone in his hand.**
- **Tuesday, July 19 at 12:05 p.m.:** A construction worker in the unit block of Hesketh Street reported that a battery for a power tool was stolen from his truck between noon and 12:05 p.m.; he had stepped away from his truck for only 5 minutes. No suspect was seen.
- **Tuesday, July 26 at 12:25 p.m.:** A construction worker at a job site in the 4000 block of Oliver Street discovered his wallet stolen from his truck. The theft occurred between noon and 12:25 p.m. No suspect was seen.
- **Thursday, July 28 at 12:20 p.m.:** Sgt. Tiedemann of the Village Police Department spotted a young man sitting on the front steps of a home in the 3900 block of Oliver Street. **The young man was black, slender, about 20 years old and was wearing a purple shirt and plaid shorts, and he had 'corn rows' (rows of tight twists) in his hair.** The man had a bright **red motor scooter** parked adjacent to the front steps, and there were 6 recently-delivered packages on the porch within reach of the young man. The sergeant made a U-turn to speak to the young man, but he quickly jumped onto his motor scooter and rode quickly across Western Avenue into DC. Three doors away, Sergeant Tiedemann discovered an empty Amazon delivery box addressed to a resident from Grove Street. He also discovered two discarded Amazon boxes addressed to Bethesda residents. The Grove Street and the Bethesda addressees confirmed that the packages had been stolen. Interestingly, all 3 recovered stolen packages had been delivered to the homes between 11:00 a.m. and 11:20 a.m. that same day.
- **Friday, July 29 at 10:20 a.m.:** A landscaper stepped away from his truck for 10 minutes and discovered that an iPhone and an iPad had been stolen from his truck. Using location software, the victim could see that his devices were near the intersection of River Road and Western Avenue. A County police officer responded to the area of River and Western and spotted a **slender black male on a grey scooter** carrying Amazon and UPS packages. The officer attempted to stop the young man on the scooter, but he fled from the officer and was last seen crossing into DC near Western Avenue and 41st Street.

Please do the following:

1. Be vigilant. **Call the police immediately** if you see a person matching the descriptions given above, or if you see anyone or anything that strikes you as unusual or suspicious.
2. It takes very little time for someone to open an unlocked car door and take small items. ***Please help us prevent these crimes of opportunity by simply locking your car every time you park your car.***